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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION: ADVISORY BOARD ON DISARMAMENT MATTERS; UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR DISARMAMENT RESEARCH

Request for subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute contained in document A/49/329

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In accordance with the provisions of article VIII, paragraph 3, of the statute of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), 1/ the recommendation by the Board of Trustees of the Institute for a subvention of $220,000 for 1995 from the regular budget of the United Nations is hereby transmitted to the General Assembly for approval.

2. The Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, in its capacity as Board of Trustees of UNIDIR, adopted the 1995 draft programme of work and proposed budget estimates of the Institute (A/49/329, annex II). The Board noted that, while efforts were continuing to increase the portion of administrative costs in tied contributions, many actual and potential donors were facing difficult economic times. It therefore recommended a subvention of $220,000 from the regular budget of the United Nations for 1995. The subvention has remained unchanged since 1990. It may be recalled that the programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 1994-1995 contains a provision of $440,000 as a grant, representing the United Nations subvention to UNIDIR for 1994-1995. By section VIII of its resolution 48/230 A of 23 December 1993, the General Assembly took note of the note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/48/16) and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary

Questions 2/ and approved a subvention of $220,000 from the regular budget of the United Nations for 1994. Notwithstanding the necessary appropriation in the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995, a formal request for a subvention for 1995 of $220,000 is being submitted to the General Assembly in keeping with established procedure.

3. Should the General Assembly decide to approve the recommendation of the Board of Trustees of UNIDIR, no additional appropriation would be required under section 3B of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

4. In its resolution 44/201 B of 2 December 1989, section IV of which was entitled "Subvention from the regular budget to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research", the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General "to report annually to the General Assembly on the situation of the Institute". In this connection it should be noted that the financial situation of the Institute is as follows:

(a) Funds available at the beginning of 1994 amounted to $436,700, including the operating cash reserve of $93,500;

(b) Total income recorded for 1994 from voluntary contributions ($770,300), public donations ($270,000), interest ($27,300), miscellaneous sources ($16,100), including income from sales of UNIDIR publications, and the subvention from the United Nations regular budget ($220,000) is estimated at $1,303,700. That revised estimate reflects an increase of $528,000 over the initial estimates provided in 1993, owing entirely to an increase in voluntary contributions and to contributions which were earmarked for 1994 ($46,000) but received in 1993. The details of 1994 and 1995 contributions are provided in annexes I and II to the present document;

(c) Total 1994 estimated expenditure was $1,110,300, which includes a provision of $42,400 for programme support costs. Requirements for 1995 are estimated at $1,077,000, inclusive of $40,800 for programme support. The breakdown of 1994 actual expenditure and 1995 estimates is provided in annex III to the present document;

(d) Funds available at the end of 1994 are estimated at $496,600, plus an operating reserve of $133,500.

5. It may be recalled that, in section III, paragraph 2, of its resolution 47/219 of 23 December 1992, the General Assembly decided "to keep under review the level of support costs charged to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research". In this connection it should be noted that when the Trust Fund for UNIDIR was established in 1983 in response to Assembly resolution 37/99 K of 13 December 1982, it was subject to the standard rate of programme support charge, namely, 13 per cent. By the end of 1983, however, the Institute, faced with financial difficulties, sought the concurrence of the Controller of the United Nations to have the Trust Fund for UNIDIR exempted from programme support charges. In addition, the Chairman of the then Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies (which also acted as the Board of Trustees of UNIDIR) wrote to the Secretary-General requesting him to waive the charges for certain

administrative and other support services provided by the Secretary-General to UNIDIR and normally subject to reimbursement by the Institute.

6. After reviewing the financial situation, the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management, on behalf of the Secretary-General, agreed that, effective 1 January 1984, the rate of reimbursement by UNIDIR for programme support would be reduced to 5 per cent, and that the cost of miscellaneous services which heretofore had been reimbursed by UNIDIR to the United Nations would be absorbed under the regular budget of the Organization. This arrangement is still in effect.

7. On the basis of actual workload statistics in 1994, the estimated cost of programme support provided to UNIDIR in 1994 by the United Nations Office at Geneva would amount to $171,800, as reflected in annex IV to the present report.

8. For 1994, the programme support cost to be paid by UNIDIR was estimated at $50,900, representing 5 per cent of an estimated expenditure level of $1,237,400, less the United Nations subvention of $220,000. Payment of the programme support cost by UNIDIR for 1994 was $42,400, representing 5 per cent of the actual expenditure of $1,067,900, less the United Nations subvention of $220,000.

Notes

1/ General Assembly resolution 39/148 H, annex.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Fifth Committee, 45th meeting, and corrigendum.

ANNEX I

Details of UNIDIR 1994 revised estimated income from voluntary sources

Contributors	Amount (United States dollars)
A. Governments	
Australia	21 900
Brazil	2 000
Finland	14 100
France	275 600
Germany	27 100
Greece	14 000
Luxembourg	3 100
Myanmar	1 500
Netherlands	39 900 a/
New Zealand	8 600
Norway	192 000
Republic of Korea	11 000
Spain	32 700
Sri Lanka	3 000
Sweden	18 300 a/
Switzerland	74 300
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	31 200
Subtotal A	770 300
B. Public donations	
Pledged public donations	
Ford Foundation	270 000
Subtotal B	270 000
Total	1 040 300

a/ Includes contributions totalling $46,000 received in 1993 but earmarked for 1994.

ANNEX II

Details of UNIDIR 1995 estimated income from voluntary sources

Contributors	Amount (United States dollars)
A. Governments	
Contributions received ($59,800)	
Chile	1 000
Finland	20 600
Greece	7 000
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	31 200
Contributions pledged ($733,600)	
Austria	80 000
Finland	15 100
France	300 000
Germany	73 000
Netherlands	25 000
New Zealand	7 500
Norway	100 000
Republic of Korea	15 000
Switzerland	88 000
United States of America	30 000
Subtotal A	793 400
B. Public donations	
Contributions received ($165,000)	
Ford Foundation	165 000
Contributions pledged ($35,000)	
United States Institute for Peace	35 000
Subtotal B	200 000
Total	993 400

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ANNEX III

Actual 1994 and estimated 1995 resource requirements

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Resource requirements	1994 actual expenditure	1995 estimates	Increase (decrease)
A.	Direct programme and administrative costs			
	Temporary assistance for meetings	4.8	12.0	7.2
	Consultants' fees and travel	136.8	92.9	(43.9)
	Ad hoc expert groups	70.1	58.0	(12.1)
	Salaries and related staff costs	469.8	551.4	81.6
	Personal service contracts	210.3	129.3	(81.0)
	Fellowship programme (stipend)	40.4	113.1	72.7
	Official travel of staff	48.6	31.1	(17.5)
	Travel of fellows	-	10.5	10.5
	External translation and interpretation	3.2	-	(3.2)
	External printing and binding	-	10.0	10.0
	Rental of conference-servicing equipment	-	4.0	4.0
	Rental and maintenance of equipment	8.3	5.5	(2.8)
	Hospitality	1.9	3.2	1.3
	Subscriptions and standing orders	-	1.5	1.5
	Supplies and materials	3.0	4.0	1.0
	Acquisition of office equipment	70.7	9.7	(61.0)
	Total	1 067.9	1 036.2	(31.7)
B.	Programme support costs (5 per cent of total A, less United Nations subvention)	42.4	40.8	(1.6)
	Total estimated expenditure (A + B)	1 110.3	1 077.0	(33.3)
C.	Operating cash reserve (15 per cent of total A and B less United Nations subvention)	133.5	128.6	(4.9)
	Total A + B + C	1 243.8	1 205.6	(38.2)

ANNEX IV

Estimated cost of programme support services provided to UNIDIR in 1994 by the United Nations Office at Geneva

Services	1994 costs a/ $
A. Apportioned costs	
Financial Services	
Payroll	1 200
Payment vouchers	12 000
Accounting and control	3 300
Investments/accounts	1 600
Budget Section	100
Total	18 200
Personnel Services	
Personnel contracts	3 800
Joint medical services	100
Total	3 900
General Services	
Travel documents	7 900
Mail and pouch	9 100
Procurement and supplies	1 300
Transportation and petrol cards	500
Telephone service	5 300
Joint housing	1 100
Electronic Services Section	1 800
Security	15 200
Total	42 200
Subtotal A	64 300
B. Direct cost	
Rental of office space b/	107 500
Grand total	171 800

a/ Based on 1994 workload data.

b/ 237.4 sq. m. x Sw F 1.70 x 365/1.37.